"Broad o'er its imbricated cup,
The Goatsbeard spreads his golden rays,
But shuts its golden petals up,
Retreating from the noontide blaze.

"Pale as a pensive cloister'd nun,
The Beth'lem star her face unveils,
When o'er the mountain peers the sun,
And shades it from the vesper gales.

"Among the loose and arid sands
The humble Arenaria creeps,
Slowly the purple star expands,
But soon within its calyx sleeps.

"And those small bells so lightly ray'd
With young Aurora's rosy hue,
Are to the noontide sun display'd,
And shut their plaits against the dew.

'On upland slopes the shepherds mark
The hour when as the dial true,
Cichorium to the towering lark
Lifts her soft eyes serenely blue.

"And thou 'wee crimson tipped flower,'
Gatherest thy fringed mantles round
Thy bosom at the closing hour,
When night drops bathe the turfy ground."

THE BUCKBEAN.

(*Menyanthes trifoliata*).

Class, Pentandria. Order, Monogynia. N. O., Gentianeæ.

This delicately flowered plant is generally found in moist and boggy ground, it has creeping and matted roots, and the leaves are divided into three leaflets, very similar in shape to the clover, sheathing at the base; a flower stalk rises from the centre, from four to six inches in length, supporting a bunch of white blossoms, a roseate hue colours the underside of these beauteous flowers, while a delicate tuft of fibres rises out of their alabaster cups, giving the appearance of beautiful fringe. The flower cup consists of five deeply divided segments, egg-shaped, pointed, veined externally, and bent back.

The blossoms soon fade and put on a yellowish brown appearance after they are gathered, admonishing us of the frailty of human existence.

"As vanishes the fleeting shade,
As flowers before the evening fade,
Such is the life of feeble man,
His days are measured by a span."

FAWCETT.

Thus advised let us seize the present opportu-

J. H. CLARK The Songs of the Seasons and Wild Flowers of the Months HALIFAX, 1851 CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN Octavo